

TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL
BRUCE ANTHONY CASELLA

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2003

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Bruce Anthony Casella, who will be appointed as Brigadier General in the Army Reserve and is an individual of great distinction, and we join with family and friends in honoring his remarkable achievements and expressing pride in this recognition that has been afforded to him;

Whereas, Bruce is a remarkable individual who has devoted his life to serve his country and to proudly protect the citizens of the United States and his unyielding energy and passionate spirit render him a key member of his community and a vital resource to our country;

Whereas, since his graduation from Colfax High School, where he graduated second in his class and lettered in Football and Track, Bruce has worked in varying capacities, providing crucial support to the military community and from his appointment to West Point by Congressman Harold Johnson, where he graduated with honors and received a B.S. degree in engineering and the rank of First Lieutenant, to his tours in Germany and Korea as a regular Army Captain, he has fought tirelessly for our country and its people through his contributions to the management and administration of the U.S. Army;

Whereas, in addition to these contributions, Bruce has received Master of Science degrees in Electrical Engineering and Systems Management and currently works for Agile Communications, Inc. as the Principal Systems Architect and his specific efforts are focused on providing information to the Army on system engineering, communications, networking, and modeling and simulations;

Whereas, I join today with his wife, Catherine, his daughter, Heather, and his sister, Paula, in their joy at this wonderful honor he will receive, knowing he is an inspiration to our country and a patriot in every sense of the word: Now, therefore be it

Resolved, Mr. Speaker, that we salute Bruce Anthony Casella and express admiration he will receive this wonderful and well-deserved honor and hope that others may recognize the immense service he has provided for the people of the United States.

HONORING LEROY RADTKE, JR.

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2003

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to bring to the attention of our colleagues a true American hero who was honored in my congressional district recently.

Private First Class LeRoy Radtke, Jr. served our country with honor and dignity. He enlisted in the Marine Corps when he was 20 years old. He did so because he loved his country and he loved the Corps. He was proud to be a Marine and lived his life by a code that only Marines truly understand. He died saving a

member of his unit during a firefight in Vietnam. He was, in the proudest tradition of the Marines, ever faithful to his country and the Corps.

PFC Radtke left America as a young man with many hopes, dreams, and plans for the future. And although most of those plans went unfulfilled, he died being a soldier and fighting for the country he loved. PFC Radtke also left behind a family who loved him and who still grieves his loss. His mother, Dorothy, his sister, Peggy, and his brother, Karl, attended a ceremony this past weekend to add PFC Radtke's name to a memorial of veterans who died defending our country. This memorial, located in New Port Richey in my congressional district, stands as a lasting tribute to the brave men from Pasco County who gave their lives to guard our freedom.

People often forget that the families of our men and women in uniform make many sacrifices while their loved ones are worlds away fighting for us. This is especially true for families of Vietnam veterans. Many veterans of the Vietnam War returned home not to the admiration and reverence they deserved, but to scorn and ridicule from those who opposed the policies of our nation's leaders. They deserved much better. So did the families of those soldiers who did not return safely.

I am humbled to show my gratitude, and that of the House of Representatives, to PFC Radtke and his family. I hope these words will remind them that our country endures only because of people like PFC LeRoy Radtke. America is forever indebted to him. I hope that this small gesture will comfort them when they think of his loss that summer thirty-six years ago.

May God bless his family and may He continue to watch over the United States of America.

REMARKS AT TRUMAN PRESIDENTIAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2003

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege to deliver a few remarks at the opening ceremony of the new Korean War exhibit at the Truman Presidential Museum and Library in Independence, Missouri. My remarks are set forth as follows:

CONFLICT AND CONSEQUENCE: THE KOREAN WAR AND ITS UNSETTLED LEGACY

Thank you for inviting me to be with you today for the opening ceremonies of this important new exhibit at the Truman Library. I am humbled to be here, particularly as we honor those who served our country so nobly during the Korean conflict.

This library is a monument to the legacy and achievements of Harry S. Truman and we are blessed to have this renowned resource here in Independence. The Truman Library, and all of our Presidential libraries, are dedicated to the preservation of our nation's historical heritage, as repositories of Presidential papers and memorabilia. As far as I'm concerned, the mission of this Library—particularly its educational function—has never been more important, and the exhibit the Library opens to the public today is especially timely.

I have to admit, and I'm sure this will come as no surprise to anyone, that I am

very sentimental about one of the artifacts on display in this exhibition. You see, my father, Ike Skelton III, was an attorney in Lafayette County and became a friend of Truman's when they met on September 17, 1928. The occasion was the dedication of the Pioneer Mother Statue—the Madonna of the Trail—located in my hometown of Lexington, Missouri.

They kept up this acquaintance, corresponding periodically, so it seems right in character that my father, a fellow veteran of World War One who served on the USS *Missouri*, sent a telegram to President Truman after the President decided to fire General Douglas MacArthur, letting him know that he agreed with the decision and pledging his continued support and that of Truman's friends in Lafayette County.

This momentous decision—reaffirming the supremacy of civilian control of the military—is full of the drama that makes our history fascinating. And I hope that for others who see this document, this personal note to the President from one of his Missouri friends, it will be meaningful as well.

I know that with the library professionals and historians in the audience I am preaching to the choir, but I am a big believer in the power of history, as was Harry Truman. Truman was an avid reader and student of history. My friend, the late Congressman Fred Schwengel, told me about meeting Senator Truman in 1935 while Schwengel was a college student in Missouri. Truman advised him that to be a good American, "...you should know your history."

That story is consistent with my experience. I well remember taking a group of grade school students to visit the Truman Library in 1963, and though President Truman was of advanced age, he spoke to them in the library auditorium about American history and the Constitution. He wanted young people to learn as much as they could about America.

I do my best to encourage people, particularly young people, to study history. I have embarked on a school visit program I call "History Matters", which gives me the chance to talk about the importance of history whenever I visit schools. I also recently issued a 50-book national security reading list, which is heavy on biographies and histories, including the books I recommend to Members of Congress, military officers, and anyone interested in learning about character, leadership, and military art.

Why do I believe it is so important to keep up our efforts to promote a broad knowledge of history? Let me share this with you for a little perspective. The college student interns who are working in my office this summer were only about 8 years old in 1989 when we witnessed the end of the Cold War with the fall of the Berlin Wall. This major event, as well as the many other significant events and crisis points of the Cold War, are far removed from them. By no fault of their own, they did not experience these events the way many of us did.

It took 50 years of national commitment to see the collapse of communism in the Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc. But in spite of the cessation of hostilities in Korea in 1953, U.S. troops still deploy to South Korea to deter invasion from the North. The totalitarian regime of North Korea continues to rattle sabers and threaten not only the future of peace on the peninsula but peace in the region and the world.

Today's college students have lived long enough to experience missile threats from North Korea, including nuclear threats. In spite of the prosperity of the South, and in spite of the passage of more than 50 years, many of the issues splitting the Korean Peninsula are still with us. This exhibit, which

opens today, will be of invaluable help to all of us, but particularly our young people, to understand where we have been and where we are today.

For the last several years, we have recognized and commemorated many of the significant events and milestones of the 20th century. Sometimes when we look back on the past, we tend to remember "the good old days" and think that day-to-day life in America is much more difficult now than it was before. Without a doubt, our country today, in the infancy of the 21st Century, faces significant challenges. But it does us good to remember that the circumstances and state of the world presented to Truman during his Presidency were extraordinarily daunting.

Like the Presidents who came before and after him, Truman was burdened with the loneliness that goes along with being the Chief Executive. But President Truman's character ensured that he did not shy away from difficult, often politically unpopular, decisions. He once said, "Do your duty and history will do you justice."

America had endured the Great Depression. Along with our allies, America fought a long and costly war against fascism. Although there was an understandable euphoria following victory in World War II, the state of the world prompted Truman to move away from America's established pattern of peacetime isolationism in order to assist European economic recovery through the Marshall Plan and to protect Western Europe under the umbrella of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Almost immediately, Harry Truman was forced to confront the reality of the Cold War, and the struggle of the U.S. and other western democracies was on to stop the spread of communism.

Truman had the courage to stand up to the communist aggression that marked the beginning of the Cold War. The Truman Doctrine made clear that the United States would not stand idly by in the face of communist aggression in Greece, Turkey, and elsewhere. Truman's commitment to the democratic rights of free people was clear as the U.S. provided essential supplies to the people of Berlin during the Soviet blockade.

And fifty-three years ago, President Harry S. Truman made the agonizing decision to use American troops to lead the United Nation's resistance to the communist invasion of South Korea. Over the next three years, more than 54,000 Americans paid the ultimate price, with over 33,000 killed in action. Over 110,000 Americans were wounded or missing in action. In addition, over 228,000 South Korean soldiers and untold numbers of civilians gave their lives.

These stark statistics serve as a reminder to all of us that the slogan "freedom is not free" is more than just a few words. The sacrifices of thousands of American service members purchased the freedom that South Koreans enjoy to this day, a freedom that our military continues to protect.

In many respects, our participation in the Korean conflict has served as model for the way our military operates today. Korea was the first multilateral United Nations operation, and it has become the longest standing peacekeeping operation in modern times. The unfortunate experience of Task Force Smith has taught us the paramount importance of sending forces into battle only when they are adequately trained and equipped. We have also learned that units cannot be thrown piecemeal into battle but must be engaged in a coordinated fashion with air and sea power and with overwhelming force. The lessons of the Korean War, taught at such great cost, have served us well in the conflicts in which we have participated since then, from Viet Nam to the Persian Gulf War

to Bosnia, Kosovo, and the War on Terrorism.

As much as we may be inclined to remember the leaders who ultimately brought us victory in the Korean War—Truman, MacArthur, Acheson, Walker, and Ridgway—it is really the men and women who served so bravely to whom we pay tribute. Without their selfless dedication, valor, and perseverance, the people of South Korea would not be living in a free and prosperous society.

To the veterans of the Korean conflict—those who are with us today, those who never returned home, and those who we have lost in the years since—we say thank you. Each of you who lost friends or family members who died during this conflict understand that their loss creates a void that can never be filled. Three of my close friends—a high school classmate, a Boy Scout buddy, and a friend from Wentworth Military Academy Junior College—were killed in Korea. You were the ones who carried out the orders of the Commander-In-Chief, President Truman, who drew a line in the sand. This line was held by your blood, sweat, and tears. You gave of your youth to stop the spread of communism. I maintain that these fledgling efforts, these supreme sacrifices, were the foundation of our victory in the Cold War, some 50 years later.

I know that you must feel a special kinship with our men and women who today are serving in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. You, perhaps as much as anyone, understand the hardship of fighting a war, a continent away from home, a war to ensure the survival of a nation and a way of life. What they are doing today will set the stage for the next 50 years, and I suspect that, like the Cold War, it may well be 50 years before we know for sure whether we have won the War Against Terrorism and brought peace and stability to the Middle East in the wake of the Iraq War.

We would all do well to live by Truman's advice, "Do your duty, and history will do you justice." The tough decisions made by Truman earned the praise of British Prime Minister Winston Churchill who said to Truman, "You, more than any other man, have saved Western civilization." History has indeed done justice and given evidence to Truman's wisdom, strength, and vision. What we learn from the past enable us to do our duty today as well.

God bless.

IN HONOR OF THE CLEVELAND-MARSHALL LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AS THEY RECOGNIZE THE HONORABLE DIANE J. KARPINSKI AND HOWARD D. MISHKIND

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association as they recognize alumni Judge Diane Karpinski and Attorney Howard D. Mishkind—distinguished alumni of the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, Class of 1980.

The mission of the Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association (CMLAA) is to promote, support and serve the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, its alumni, faculty and students by offering quality education, professional programs, and professional opportunities to assist in career and educational advancement of

every alumnus. Additionally, CMLAA life membership dues fund a vital Student Scholarship Program.

Cleveland-Marshall College of Law Alumni—Judge Diane J. Karpinski and Attorney Howard D. Mishkind, have evolved from law school graduates in 1980, to leaders in the legal profession. Both have raised the bar of excellence in their prospective areas of law and reflect outstanding professional profiles that encompass integrity, expertise, and service to others. While ascending throughout their legal endeavors, Judge Diane Karpinski and Attorney Howard Mishkind have remained committed to supporting the Cleveland College of Law and their community, and have become superior role models for the youth of our community.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Judge Diane Karpinski and Attorney Howard D. Mishkind, as they are duly recognized by the Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association for their significant professional achievements and, more importantly, for their service to the College and to our community. I also stand in honor of the Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association, for their continued support of educational excellence; for their promotion and support of Cleveland-Marshall College of Law graduates and alumni; and for providing countless students an opportunity to attain a superior law education through the organization of scholarship funds. Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, its faculty, students and alumni have demonstrated academic and professional excellence within all areas of law, earning the highest respect and admiration of our entire community and beyond.

RECOGNIZING LOCAL 375 FOR ITS CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, ATTACK ON NEW YORK CITY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Civil Service Technical Guild, Local 375, for its work on behalf of the people of New York. In particular, I applaud the members for their continuing efforts to rebuild the City's infrastructure after the destruction caused by the September 11, 2001, terrorist attack on New York City.

The 6,800 member local, headed by President Claude Fort, has been a New York City mainstay for decades, building and maintaining vital components of the city's infrastructure. Since its inception in 1937, the local's engineers, architects, scientists, chemists, planners and other technical specialists have designed, constructed, and maintained the City's infrastructure of bridges, highways, subways, sewer and water systems, schools and libraries; they also enforce air, water, fire, and building codes.

Hundreds of members are currently at work on a massive project to add a third water tunnel in the New York City area. The "Third Water Tunnel Project" is a system of sixty miles of underground aqueducts running through Westchester, Bronx, Manhattan, Queens, and Brooklyn. When completed, the tunnel will increase water delivery for the